



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

SINCE 1991

December 2018, January 2019

HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

John Fort Memorial
Page 1

Ham Operators Needed
Page 1

Congratulations to Mimi Irwin
& Phil Burtis
Page 1

Give Your First Aid a
Checkup
Page 1

Radio Rodeo
Page 1

School Evacuation Drill
Page 2

CERT Annual Holiday Party
Page 2

From the Red Cross Desk
Page 2

Photos, Radio Rodeo
Page 3

Photos, CERT Basic Training
Class
Pages 4—5

Photos, Mock School Drill
Page 6

Photos, CERT Holiday party
Pages 7—14

CERT Mission Statement,
Upcoming CERT Events
and Activities,
CPR Classes,
Newsletter Staff
Page 15



CLASS 1

John Fort's Memorial

By Virginia Petrelis



We are very sorry to announce our good friend, John Fort, long time member of Huntington Beach CERT, passed away on November 30, 2018 after a long illness. For many years, John was the leader of the Huntington Beach CERT Communications Team. Many of us received our HAM Radio Licenses as a result of John's classes and encouragement. Next month's newsletter will have more memories and pictures of John. Please join John's wife, Tara Fort, and us, for a celebration of John's life on:

Saturday, January 19, 2019, 11:00 am
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
9812 Hamilton Avenue
Huntington Beach, Calif. 92646.

Ham Operators Needed for Surf City Marathon

By Steve Albert KE6OCE of HB RACES

RACES is looking for CERT ham operators to help with the 2019 Surf City Marathon on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2019. (We are always home before the game!) I need to get our volunteer list filled up before our next meeting on January 7th which is the last meeting before the Marathon.

PLEASE take a minute to check your calendar and email me at ke6oce@gmail.com before January 7, 2019 if you are available to participate. Request for spots will be taken into the planning.

Congratulations to Mimi Irvin and Phil Burtis

Congratulations to Mimi and Phil on completion of a three day CERT/FEMA "Train the Trainer" course. They invested over 20 hours of time and learned a lot of valuable information that they hope to incorporate into the next Spring CERT training.

Give your First Aid Kit a Checkup

By Susan McClaran

It's the New Year! This is a good time to give your first aid kit a checkup. When was the last time you checked the products in your first aid kit? You should check regularly to be sure the flashlight batteries work and to replace supplies that have expired or been used up.

You wouldn't keep out-of-date food in your fridge, so why keep expired products in your first aid kit? Keeping products past their expiration date can be unsafe. Products will start to deteriorate and may not be effective.

I recommend you check the expiration date on your first aid products, write the dates down and then post a reminder on your calendar.

Radio Rodeo November 13, 2018

By Raji Shunmugavel

On a recent clear and sunny November morning the annual regional communications event, the Radio Rodeo, was staged at the beach parking lot on Pacific Coast Highway and Beach Boulevard. It started at 9:00 am and lasted until 11:00 am.

CERT Communicator, Jon Welfringer, and I attended the event and were greeted by Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator and RACES member, Tim Sawyer. Jon and I visited more than six command posts from various organizations. Their representatives answered questions about incident reporting, technical aspects and satellite communications. It was interesting that each command post used a note pad as an important communicating device.

As a CERT communicator, this event taught me more about command post operations and the use of ham radio during emergencies.

School Evacuation Drill

By Raji Shunmugavel

The "Safe School Coalition" was organized by the HB Police Department and held at the HB main library. The purpose of the drill was to test the reunification plan in the event of a school evacuation.

The event started with an opening briefing by a Huntington Beach police officer. The plan was created over a period of two years. He highlighted HB CERT members' training and participation.

A common goal of emergency preparedness and response drills is to develop a higher level of readiness. It is necessary to be trained in current emergency plans.

CERT Annual Holiday Party

By Virginia Petrelis

A good time was had by all of the CERT members who attended our recent annual holiday party on December 13, 2018. A potluck of delicious appetizers and desserts demonstrated our members' creative cooking skills. Thank you to Carol and Phil Burtis for organizing the party and the Team Trivia game after dinner.

The always popular gift exchange allowing "stealing" of the gifts was fun. Some gifts were stolen more quickly until frozen with the last lucky recipient keeping their gift.

Carol and Phil presented unique "CERTy" trophies to those members who volunteered so much time and effort to CERT activities during the year. Those categories included: Gold Medal, Rising Star, Helping Hand, Good Job and Torch Light.

This party is a great opportunity to meet new members, visit with friends and compare our always busy community activities. If you missed the party this year, try to come next year as it's probably the most fun we have all year.

From the Red Cross Desk

By Richard Batistelli

As many of our CERT Huntington Beach family of volunteers may have read in previous additions of this useful and informative periodical, this author volunteers his time and efforts with CERT and American Red Cross logistics. I do not wish to sound boastful, but I consider both capacities quite rewarding.

On the local level in Huntington Beach, I believe my primary CERT function is predominantly focused on assisting leadership with positioning teaching materials and demonstrative exhibits in preparation for biannual training exercises. I also share responsibilities with CERT Operations Lead, Phil Burtis, the logistics for annual projects and activities. There is always a need to move supplies and, with invaluable help of CERT volunteers, these projects always seem to reach completion in an orderly fashion.

At this point, allow me to digress to my other logistics role of Facilities Lead with the American Red Cross in Orange County. On any given day Red Cross volunteers locally, nationally or worldwide, must be prepared to assist those in need of their valuable services. As of this transcript, the Red Cross (Red Crescent) is onsite in Indonesia aiding a nation devastated by a volcanic eruption that caused a landslide and ensuing tsunami.

Stateside, California also has a history of disasters, be it earthquakes, major fires or floods. Locally, Orange County has not been spared for such cataclysmic events. On any given day this community could become another devastating footnote in our history books. The Orange County Chapter and its volunteers have planned, reviewed, revised and focused continuously with "what if" scenarios.

I am but a small bit player in this broad and extensive plan for "response and recovery" but I feel my role is quite important in the grand blueprint for recovery. My team of volunteers, "Facilities Function," investigates and evaluates local public and private properties as to their usefulness in an emergency. It could be a short term "Care and Reception Center" or a longer term, overnight "Evacuation Center" based on needs and requirement. Red Cross opens centers based on instructions received from the civil authorities.

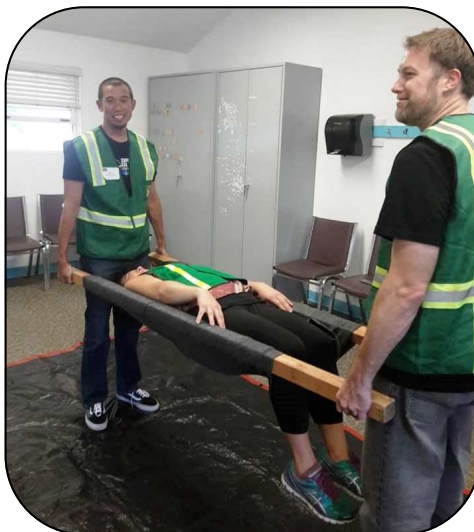
In closing, helping others is what volunteering is all about. Please step up, get trained and lend a hand. If interested in logistics, send an e-mail to rbatistelli@aol.com.



CERT BASIC TRAINING CLASS, NOVEMBER 14, 2018



CERT BASIC TRAINING CLASS, NOVEMBER 14, 2018 (continued)



CERT VOLUNTEERS AT MOCK SCHOOL EVACUATION DRILL DECEMBER 10, 2018



Many thanks to the volunteers who helped with the school drill. We appreciate your time and assistance.



Gold Medal Award



- Melisse Bridges
- Stephanie Deagle
- Mimi Irvin
- Susan McClaren
- Linda Vollmar
- Maria Young



Rising Star Award



- Jeanie Berman
- John Bishop
- Brenda Low
- Patrick Upstill
- Corvi Urling



Helping Hand Award



- Richard Batistelli
- Alicia Helm
- Chad Hicks-Beach
- Mark Morimoto
- Cesar Rodriguez



Good Job Award



- Roy Alzua
- Bob Dow
- Janice Goodwin
- Ken Mailman
- Gabriela Menendez
- Ed Ryan



Torch Light Award



- Cynthia Goebel
- Peter Petrelis
- Virginia Petrelis
- Anna Pinter
- Raji Shunmugavel



CERT HOLIDAY PARTY, DECEMBER 13, 2018



CERT HOLIDAY PARTY, DECEMBER 13, 2018 (continued)



CERT HOLIDAY PARTY, DECEMBER 13, 2018 (continued)



CERT HOLIDAY PARTY, DECEMBER 13, 2018, GIFT EXCHANGE



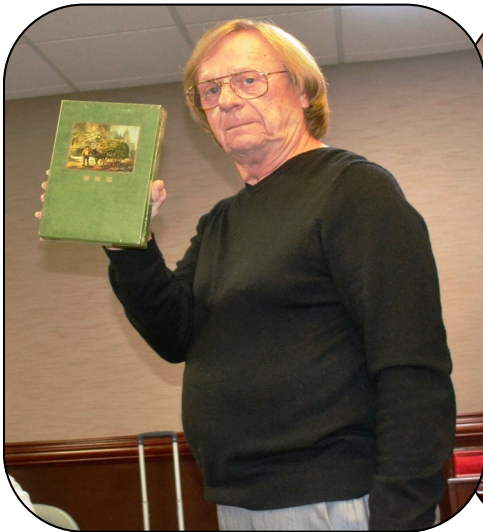
CERT HOLIDAY PARTY, DECEMBER 13, 2018, GIFT EXCHANGE, (continued)



HB Fire Department Open House October 13, 2018 (continued)



**CERT HOLIDAY PARTY, DECEMBER 13, 2018, GIFT EXCHANGE
RULES ALLOW STEALING OF GIFTS, SO THESE MEMBERS GOT
TO RE-PICK A GIFT**



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT

Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

Upcoming CERT Events & Activities

- CERT General Membership Meeting, January 10, 2019, 6:30 PM in B8
- CERT General Membership Meeting, February 14, 2019, 6:30 PM in B8

CPR Classes

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee.

- Saturday, January 12, 2019, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, January 23, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Saturday, February 9, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 27, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Saturday, March 9, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 27, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in the HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

CERT NEWSLETTER STAFF: Virginia Petrelis (Editor), Peter Petrelis (Publisher), Richard Batistelli, Anna Pinter, Cynthia Goebel, Carol Nehls, Rajarajeswari (Raji) Shunmugavel, Cathy Stanfill

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

CERT Website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert **CERT Contact:** CERT@surfcity-hb.org
CERT Message line 714-536-5974 (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)